

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-17 are now pending and under examination. Applicant has amended claims 9, 11, and 15, and cancelled claim 18. No new matter has been added.

The objection to claim 11 as containing informality is believed to have been overcome by the amendment to claim 11.

The rejection of claim 9 as indefinite is believed to have been overcome by the amendment to claim 9.

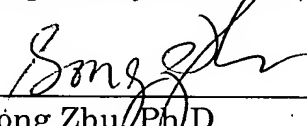
The rejections of claim 18 are rendered moot by its cancellation.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (CAM #080437.50636US).

January 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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